



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Tsutomu WAKABAYASHI et al.

Group Art Unit: 2871

Application No.: 09/832,204

Examiner: K. Parker

Filed: April 11, 2001

Docket No.: 109239

For: LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY ILLUMINATING
DEVICE FOR CAMERA FINDER

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the August 7, 2003 Restriction Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect Group I, claims 9-16, with traverse. Applicants submit that claim 16, which depends from claim 10, should also be included in Group I.

It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 6, 8 and 17-19 is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present

application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: August 29, 2003

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